

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**“TEARS AND PERSEVERANCE”:
AN INTERPRETATIVE
PHENOMENOLOGICAL ANALYSIS
OF MOTHERS IN RAISING
CHILDREN WITH DYSLEXIA**

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Thesis submitted in fulfillment
of the requirements for the degree of
Master of Sciences

Faculty of Health Sciences

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CONFIRMATION BY PANEL OF EXAMINERS

I certify that a panel of examiners has met on 12th November 2015 to conduct the final examination of Noor Amiera Binti Alias on his Master of Science thesis entitled “Tears and perseverance”: An interpretative phenomenological analysis of mothers in raising children with dyslexia” in accordance with Universiti Teknologi MARA Act 1976 (Akta 173). The Panel of Examiners recommends that the student be awarded the relevant degree. The panel of Examiners was as follows:

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AUTHOR'S DECLARATION

I declare that the work in this thesis was carried out in accordance with the regulations of Universiti Teknologi MARA. It is original and is the results of my own work, unless otherwise indicated or acknowledged as referenced work. This thesis has not been submitted to any other academic institution or non-academic institution for any degree or qualification.

I, hereby, acknowledge that I have been supplied with the Academic Rules and Regulations for Post Graduate, Universiti Teknologi MARA, regulating the conduct of my study and research.

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ABSTRACT

It is estimated that the number of children is 5 in every 100 pupils in primary school are potentially dyslexics in Malaysia. Dyslexia is a one types of Learning Disability which affects abilities in reading, spelling and writing. These issues increase motherhood experiences which subsequently give negative effects to mothers' life such as physical health, psychological health and social relationship. However, those experiences are often found in literature from Western countries with other various conditions. To date, there is lack of literature regarding Malaysian mothers experience in raising children with dyslexia. The aims of this qualitative study are to illuminate the challenges, coping strategies and hopes of mothers' experiences in raising the children with dyslexia using a phenomenological approach. Data were collected from twenty mothers who have children with Dyslexia located at Dyslexia Association Malaysia (DAM) centre. Semi structured interview were conducted. The verbatim transcripts were analysed by using six steps Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis (IPA). Five super-ordinate themes emerged that describes the mothers' experiences. The super-ordinate themes are, i.e., "*Difficulty yet enduring*" and "*Self-perseverance*" relating to challenges "*Never mind, I will finds my ways*" relating to coping strategies, "*There is always improvement*" and "*I wish ...*" relating to hopes emerged in this study. The present study has revealed experiences and knowledge that should be addressed by health professionals such as occupational therapy to construct an effective intervention to mothers raising a child with Dyslexia. The findings provide a deeper understanding to the occupational therapy to support mothers or families effectively.

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